

## THE PRESS

**TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 1**

We do not read anonymous letters and communications. The name and address of the writer are in all cases indispensable, not necessarily for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return or preserve communications that are not used.

EVERY regular attaché of the PRESS is furnished with a Card certificate countersigned by Stanley J. Pullen, Editor. All railway, steamboat and hotel proprietors are requested to give a favor upon the demand of the holder of such a card, and to forward the credentials of every person claiming to represent our journal.

If the Union was worth fighting for it is worth paying for.

Students, Teachers, and Clergymen

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union of the State of Maine, will hold a

**Mass Temperance Convention,**

— IN —

**City Hall, Bangor, Jan. 2 and 3**

Opening at 10 o'clock A. M., Thursday, and closing Friday evening. Addresses will be given by prominent temperance workers of this State, and by PROF. GEORGE E. FOSTER, of the University of New Brunswick.

france Women of Bangor to their sisters engaged in this work throughout the State, to assemble at the opening of the new year, to discuss those vital questions pertaining to the interests of the cause. It is earnestly desired that all auxiliary unions and societies be fully represented at this meeting. Entertainment will be furnished in the hospitable homes of the members. If desired, all the members may receive return tickets. If solicited, will be given the same. The sessions of the M. C. R. R., and the same reduction may be expected on the other roads.

thoroughly to consider the necessities of the cause in which we labor, invoking the divine blessing to crown our efforts with success

MRS. L. M. N. STEVENS.  
Pres. Mo. W. C. T. U.

MRS. C. C. HUNT, Cor. Sec.  
Augusta, Dec 13th, 1878.

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### The Proposed Change in the Navigation Laws.

At the meeting of the National Board of Steam Navigation held in New York on the

On the 11th and 12th insts, the following "resolves" were presented and unanimously adopted:-  
 1. That Mr. Weston F. Miliken of this city, President of the Portland, Bangor and Machias Steamboat Co., being one of the framers of the resolutions--viz.:-  
 Resolved, That the National board of Steam

Resolved, That this Board earnestly protest against any such change in the navigation laws, and in this protest unite, through the various bodies represented at this meeting, the

1. These laws have existed since the foundation of the government, and have not only fostered American commerce but also have raised a hardy race of American seamen for the national defense.

3 Such a change jeopardizes the interest not only of the owners and builders of vessels, but

4. Fair competition at home has already depressed American commerce sufficiently to have now brought here all the idle vessels of the world to swarm on our rivers, lakes and seaboard to completely ruin it.

Although these resolutions explain themselves, their importance deserves more than a passing thought. Our country is of vast extent and the people of the various sections

... absorbed in their leading business interests. Thus the West are mainly engrossed in crop raising and so give but little consideration to the ownership of the ships that carry their products out of the country. The question to them is simply who can transport their products the cheapest! and if foreign

the business at a lower price than Americans. The vessels they say let them come; Congress should even invite them by admitting them to the American enrolment and registry. We, however, who live near the seaboard and are extensively interested in commerce cannot

well knowing that this step menaces the prosperity of our commercial ports. And while the Western view naturally takes its coloring from the apparent interest of that section, there is a higher point of view that, while not ignoring these sectional interests,

looks to the highest good of the whole country. The commercial interests of the United States are confined to no one section and anything that strikes a blow at those interests affects, not the East simply but the whole country.

will be more widely spread than its advocates imagine; for, the doors once opened to the enrollment and registry of foreign vessels, our waters will be crowded with the idle shipping of England, manned by foreign seamen, bringing to every possible extent their own

monopolizing the whole coasting trade of the country. In every possible opening British vessels, under British officers and with British crews are already crowding in, leaving their own profitless routes, and it needs no very discerning eye to note the efforts con-

policy need but to be hinted at to show their magnitude. Millions of money now engaged in commercial pursuits at immense shrinkage would be withdrawn, and the countless numbers of mechanics and merchants who now

But not only in the peaceful pursuits of commerce would this be disastrous. As the merchant marine has been and is increasingly dependent upon the navy for protection, the navy itself would be seriously suffer.

regarded by all commercial nations the great nursery of the navy, this policy would leave us in case of war with exceedingly limited resources and with a peculiarly unskilled in marine pursuits. The lesson of our civil war if rightly weighed, will strengthen all the arguments which I have

ships. Without an extensive Merchant Marine navy,—taught by hard experience the value and a large force of available seamen for the navy, we should have been powerless to quell the rebellion with our forces by land. England has gained her

mercial interests, and our country cannot afford to ignore this subject which is of national importance. No section of the country is more interested than our own State of Maine. And hence we commend to the attention of our people the strong and vitally important

THE *Argus* sees no difference in Congressional representation according to the Constitution and representation obtained by various States.

has as many Senators as New York the *A* seems to think South Carolina has right to count in her representation the *m* whose votes she does not count. That is the Lamar logic.

The other day he bought some pork and proceeded to salt it. She discovered that he was using white sugar instead of salt. Thereupon she fell into a fit of laughter and soon fainted dead. This is a fearful warning against making fun of the Negro.

ing brine with sugar.

**The Shoe and Leather Reporter** draw an instructive contrast between the money-lord of the South fifty years ago and to-day. Then, it is said, the balance of trade was heavily against us; we were exporting gold in large quantities to cancel the difference; the bonds of our Government and of innumerable corporations, were held by foreign capitalists; we lived in continuous apprehension of having them returned through insubordination; the sum of our commercial indebtedness was incalculably huge; the rates of interest were high; our real property in a depreciated and fluctuating currency the cost of living was exorbitant, and we were literally drifting along upon the waves of irredeemability, without chart, compass or helm to rescue us from the vortex of insolvency. The revolution that has been wrought since then is simply marvelous. Now, our exports have attained an average of \$250,000,000 a year; our balance of trade yields us a net income of \$250,000,000 per annum; the current of the precious metal has been reversed; the Government indebtedness to transatlantic creditors has dwindled to a mere trifle; other forms of liability to parties at home and abroad have been wonderfully reduced; the interest on the national debt has fallen from fifty per cent. to four per cent. The public mind is free from all the necessities, and most of the luxuries of life, are abundant and cheap, and everybody can pursue his wonted avocations with entire confidence that no unpleasant surprises nor dangerous pitfalls lie in the way of his success.

NEW YORK has got a new boss; the bores Indicus or zebu which has taken up quarters in the Central Park Menagerie.

THE Boston Globe has been interviewing a Boston fool who thinks General Grant wants to be the King of Bulgaria.

THREE thousand slaves have been set free in Cuba within the last thirty days.

MARY CLEMMER thinks Speaker Randall looks like one of Raphael's cherubs.

Our New Yorker Letter.

**Collection of Government Revenue—Custom House Extortions—The Sheridan-Kaaves Case—The Plaintiff and the Defendant—New Appointments.**

NEW YORK, Dec 16th 1878.

The Government in its pursuit of revenue too often resorts to measures, which are grossly violative of private rights and moral principles, and which are calculated to excite the indignation of the people. The Government has taken the throat with an effrontery worthy of a highwayman and extorts from their considerable sums of money for invading their goods at the Custom House at what they cost instead of what these principles Treasury pays appraisals for them. The plaintiff and the defendant are made to defend the wronger that are quite as flagrant and impudent as any that have ever been devised to replenish it. There has been a suit in progress for the past fortnight in the United States Court in New York in which one Whalen the plaintiff and Genl. Philip H. Sheridan the ostensible defendant, the evidence adduced in which discloses a monstrous conspiracy of fraud, which ought to bring all the participants in it to condign punishment. To wit: The plaintiff is a Northern emigrant to Louisiana and invested money in the purchase of a plantation. His possession of it was wrested from him through some collusion proceeding of a pretended owner and a local Louisiana lawyer, and he was driven out of it then in military command at New Orleans. The rightful owner appealed to him for protection and aid. The callant soldier investigated the matter, satisfied that justice demanded prompt interposition, and he accordingly reinstated the actual proprietor in possession of the estate he had bought and paid for. The ejected squatter, a needy and characterless adventurer, was so incensed at the soldier's interference with his own wrongdoings, that he set on foot a scheme to have the spirits of his own kidney to prosecute a claim for some \$400,000 damages for the losses he pretends to have suffered in consequence of General Sheridan's act. Up to this time only one Whalen has been named as the plaintiff, but the testimony of the prosecutor and his accomplices under the searching scrutiny of the cross examining counsel, is conclusive in showing that the whole thing has been concocted in inequality and supported by perjury. Kaaves are apt to be clamorous in their eagerness of recalling projects, and these fellows have left so many plots exposed that there will be no difficulty in baffling their vile scheme. Not one of them has left the witness stand yet without having been exposed in some way or other, and the frame work and details of the plot have been presented so clearly to the jury that there is very little doubt that a verdict would be rendered for the defendant if his counsel were to drop out. The case is being solely on the facts established by the presentation of the evidence. The District Attorney apparently intends to go to the very bottom of this remarkable crusade to gather plunder from the public officers, and if he succeeds, the actors engaged in it are sure to be turned out of their jobs. The Attorney General, Marshall to take seas in the criminal cod to answer to the charge of false swearing.

This extraordinary trial has attracted a good deal of attention, partly because the brave and patriotic young men of the North have taken part in it, and partly for the reason that Gen. Butler is acting as the legal adviser of the conspirators. It is safe to say that the latter gentlemen will not derive any pecuniary advantage from the suit, but to reflect the shame of association with such disreputable clients or the mortification of being beaten, for they have nothing to pay fees with and are not likely to be in the way of getting money very soon either by fair means or foul.

Great credit is due to Gen. Woodford, the U. S. District Attorney, and to his assistants Mr. A. B. Herrick, for the energy and sagacity they have displayed in detecting the conspiracy. In this it was aided by Mr. Beckwith, the subordinate network of villainy. Mr. Herrick went to Louisiana and spent some time there in following the trail of Whalen and his accomplices, and he did his work so thoroughly that when they presented themselves to him, they were taken by surprise, and the utter worthlessness of their present exonerations by confronting them with previous contradictions of the same, which they had unblushingly sworn to in earlier stages of the conspiracy. In this it was aided by Mr. Beckwith, a Louisiana lawyer who had made himself familiar with the entire history of the transaction, and knew enough of the doings of the actors in it to destroy their credibility by their own admissions. The evidence was thrown himself into this case with all the force and ability of his energetic nature, proving that he is as determined a foe of thieves in every phase of peace, as he was of rebels in the days of civil war. The defence is entrenched at all points. He is in the way of recalling projects, and the utter worthlessness of their present exonerations by confronting them with previous contradictions of the same, which they had unblushingly sworn to in earlier stages of the conspiracy. In this it was aided by Mr. Beckwith, a Louisiana lawyer who had made himself familiar with the entire history of the transaction, and knew enough of the doings of the actors in it to destroy their credibility by their own admissions. The evidence was thrown himself into this case with all the force and ability of his energetic nature, proving that he is as determined a foe of thieves in every phase of peace, as he was of rebels in the days of civil war. The defence is entrenched at all points. 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 —OR—  
**J. Schumacher's**

**BY AUCTION.**

**TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, at 11 and 3 o'clock each day, we shall sell by public auction, at the residence of Mr. Schumacher, his entire collection of paintings, being the work of the past two years, comprising Landscapes, Marine, Seas, Fruit and Game Pictures. This collection of the work from the brush of an artist as well as a connoisseur, should command the attention of the public. The pictures will be open for examination every day for one week.**

The pictures are in fine gilt frames from the well-known firm of Messrs. G. F. Bailey & Co. and the paintings will be sold without the frames. It will be with the purchaser to buy the frames if desired.

The paintings will be in charge of a competent person during the time of exhibition previous to the sale and any party desirous of bidding on any of the pictures may do so by depositing with the auctioneer in a book kept for this purpose, and if no bidder appears at the time of the sale the picture will be sold to the highest recorded bidder.

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 Wake up, do-ponding rool, by a variety in  
 instrument. I may never have a talent but you will  
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